

FISCAL NOTE

SB 2678 - HB 3281

March 4, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Directs the Tennessee Code Commission to change references from the Department of Transportation to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority in TCA 65-3, relative to railroads.

Transfers:

- certain duties, responsibilities and powers of the Department of Transportation, Railroad Regulatory Division, to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.
- authority over the elimination of grade crossing, application of time extensions to begin and to complete construction of underpasses and overpasses, and authority over disagreements concerning grade separations.
- railroad inspection fees of the Railroad Ton-Mile Tax.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures:

\$35,000 One-Time/Tennessee Regulatory Authority

\$300,000 Recurring/Department of Transportation

Other Fiscal Impact - Transfers from the Department of Transportation to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority all positions and equipment in the Rail Safety Office, and annual railroad inspection fees of \$1,200,000

Estimate assumes:

- Positions transferred from the Rail Safety Office to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.
- A one-time start-up cost for office supplies, telephone lines.
- Positions needed to replace staff in Department of Transportation presently performing non-railroad responsibilities in addition to their railroad responsibilities.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director